

DREF operation update



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

India: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRIN002
GLIDE n° FL-2007-000096-IND and
FL-2007-000083-IND
Update n° 4
27 December 2007

The International Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of national societies to respond to disasters.

Period covered by this update: 10 November to 19 December 2007.

Summary:

- CHF 250,000 (USD 207,641 or EUR 151,515) was allocated from the Federation's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on 9 August 2007 to respond to the needs of this operation and to replenish disaster preparedness (DP) stocks distributed to the affected population.
- The Indian Red Cross Society responded quickly and efficiently to the floods that hit the country between May and October this year. Most of the activities were carried out within the planned timeframe of the operation, except for the procurement of DP stocks (non-food family kits). The purchase order for these was placed on 2 November 2007, but the delivery is only scheduled to be completed by 15 January 2008, due to the processing time required by the supplier. Following the completion of delivery, a final report (financial and narrative) will be prepared by end February 2008, and launched by early March 2008.
- While the operation was expected to be implemented in three months and completed by 9 November 2007, this update is being submitted in order to extend the timeframe by a month, to 9 December 2007. In line with Federation reporting standards, the final report (narrative and financial) will be made available 90 days after the end of the operation.



Part of the disaster preparedness stock procured for replenishment of stocks at IRCS' warehouse.

[<click here for interim financial report>](#)

The situation

The DREF allocation was provided to support the response by the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) to the large-scale flooding that hit the country between May and October 2007, particularly most of the coastal and non-coastal areas, causing massive loss of lives and property. According to the ministry of home affairs, an estimated 3,339 people were killed and approximately 57 million people affected by the floods this year. Even Uttar Pradesh in the north, which is not a flood-prone state, saw one of its worst floods this year.

The IRCS, through its state and district branches, provided relief assistance in the form of non-food family kits in the flood-affected states. The IRCS national headquarters structured a national response based on detailed plans of actions from the affected state branches. The capacity of the national society was not only further built but also tested by activating state disaster response teams in the flood-affected states of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Orissa to respond to the first wave of floods. The branches were provided support by the IRCS national headquarters through pre-positioned DP stock in various flood-prone states like Bihar, Assam and Madhya Pradesh.

The DREF amount was allocated at the peak of the floods, when the south-west monsoon was active within the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghana river basin in the states of Orissa, Assam, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The DREF allocation covers the replenishment of IRCS' DP stock (non-food family kits) that had been distributed during the emergency, drinking water support, bleaching powder support in the state of Andhra Pradesh and operational cost support to deliver the relief supplies to the beneficiaries in various states. In addition, the DREF was also used to assist in a review visit to Orissa in the wake of the cholera epidemic that hit the state as a result of the floods.

Coordination and partnerships

The flood operation this year was carried out smoothly, with the IRCS taking the lead by forming a taskforce comprising of representatives from the national society, the Federation and in-country partner national societies who met and reviewed the operation regularly. The Federation released the DREF amount due to the intensity of the floods, and the IRCS DP stocks that were utilized and were rapidly being exhausted. Similar support was also provided by many partner national societies, as and when required by the national society.

An assessment was conducted jointly by the IRCS' state branch and the Federation's India office representatives on the cholera outbreak in Orissa, supported by the Federation. The assessment report was submitted to the health ministry to take up a long-term approach to health and hygiene in the tribal areas of the state affected by cholera. In an effort to promote hygiene practices in the state, the IRCS national headquarters shared a film on hand-washing, developed by the World Health Organization, with the Orissa state branch.

Coordination under the operation proceeded smoothly, with the IRCS supporting the local authorities in search and rescue operations, as well as managing relief camps. The Federation represented the national society at information sharing meetings with the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (SPHERE) India and the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Office (ECHO) and kept other humanitarian actors updated on the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's actions.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Progress towards objectives

As indicated, the planned activities have been completed except for the procurement of family packs, which is scheduled to be completed by mid-January 2008.

The table below indicates the budget and plan based on which the DREF operation was carried out:

Items	Total cost (CHF)
Procurement of family packs (5,500)	200,889
Operation cost for relief distribution	24,252
Local purchase of bleaching powder in Andhra Pradesh	708
Loading and unloading of 2 water and sanitation units to Bihar	1,666
Inspection cost	3,182
Visibility material (banners/flags)	300
Flood review visit to Orissa and future review visit	2,753
Sub-total	233,750
Programme service recovery (6.5% total)	16, 250
Total	250,000

Under the relief distribution component of the plan, the DP stock of the IRCS was to be replenished through

the procurement of 5,500 non-food family kits¹. As mentioned above, the order for these was placed on 2 November 2007 and delivery is expected to be completed by mid-January 2008. Currently, of the eight items in the family pack, the supply of mosquito nets and plastic buckets has been completed.

Initially, it was planned to provide dry rations to the flood-affected states. However, this component was subsequently taken out of the plan/budget, which was revised accordingly, as the state branches had mobilized resources locally to take care of the food component.

The IRCS national headquarters supported the operational cost of relief distribution, including transport and labour costs to deliver the relief material to beneficiaries, for the states of Assam, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. Under the operational cost, the IRCS national headquarters, supported by the Federation, commissioned an assessment in Orissa due to the cholera outbreak in the state following the floods. The assessment was undertaken in the state's Raigada district, a tribal area which was one of the worst affected by the floods.

While the original response plan included sending two water purification units to Bihar, the units were damaged during transit and were, therefore, returned to the IRCS national headquarters while the local authorities in Bihar responded to the needs in the state. Subsequently, based on an assessment of needs for the water purification units in Orissa, two fresh units were sent there and are currently in use, providing potable water to approximately 5,000 people daily. As a result of the damage to the earlier two units assigned for Bihar, the IRCS immediately ordered the repair and stocking of all its water purification units, to ensure that these are in working condition. Presently, five of the 13 existing units have been repaired and the rest are in the process of being repaired. In Andhra Pradesh, the state branch requested for some funds to disinfect public water sources in Kurnool district, which was addressed through the DREF allocation with the purchase of bleaching powder (amount as indicated in the table above).

As part of the DREF support to undertake some visibility activities, the IRCS produced 29 banners and flags for trucks carrying the relief material, to raise awareness on the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.

Challenges:

As indicated, the delivery of DP stock procured under the DREF was delayed due to the processing time required by the supplier. Though the timeframe for delivery was negotiated with the supplier, the delivery of stocks will only be completed in mid-January 2008. Therefore, as a final report for the DREF operation cannot be submitted by 9 February 2008 as earlier planned, this update is being submitted to seek a one-month extension of the operational timeframe.

The two water purification units deployed in Orissa are still being used by the local communities, despite the end of the emergency phase. This is due to the fact that the communities do not have access to safe drinking water as there are no permanent public water sources in the area. Therefore, they want these units to remain in the area. The challenge is to negotiate with the local communities to bring back these units to the IRCS warehouse in Kolkata (West Bengal state), so that they may be available in case required in the event of another disaster.

¹ A non-food family kit consists of eight items, viz. mosquito net, kitchen set, sari (women's clothing item), dhoti (men's clothing item), towel, bed sheet, cotton blanket and plastic bucket

How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response](#) (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- Indian Red Cross Society: Dr. S.P. Agarwal (secretary general), email: spagarwalsg@indianredcross.org; phone: +91.11.2371.6424; fax: +91.11.23711.7454
- Federation country office in India: Mohamed Babiker (head of office), email: mohamed.babiker@ifrc.org; phone: +91.11.2332.4203; fax: +91.11.233.4235
- Federation South Asia regional office in India: Al Panico (head of regional office), email: al.panico@ifrc.org; phone: +91.11.2411.1125; fax: +91.11.2411.1128
- Federation Asia Pacific zone in Malaysia: Jagan Chapagain (deputy head of zone), email: jagan.chapagain@ifrc.org, phone: +603.21610892, fax: +60321611210; Latifur Rahman (disaster management delegate), email: latifur.rahman@ifrc.org, phone: +6012.975.0144, fax: +60321611210
- Federation Secretariat in Geneva (Management support team): Hiroto Oyama (officer – Asia Pacific); email: secretariat.zonesupport@ifrc.org; phone: +44.22.730.4273; fax: +41.22.733.0395

[<Interim financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRIN002 - India - Floods 2007

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2007/11
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2007/12
Appeal	MDRIN002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Consolidated Response to Appeal

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
A. Budget		250,000				250,000
B. Opening Balance		0				0
Income						
<u>Other Income</u>						
DREF Allocations		250,000				250,000
C6. Other Income		250,000				250,000
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)		250,000				250,000
D. Total Funding = B + C		250,000				250,000

II. Balance of Funds

	Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation	TOTAL
B. Opening Balance		0				0
C. Income		250,000				250,000
E. Expenditure		-27,493				-27,493
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		222,507				222,507

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

MDRIN002 - India - Floods 2007

Interim Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2007/1-2007/11
Budget Timeframe	2007/1-2007/12
Appeal	MDRIN002
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Budget Analysis / Breakdown of Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Health & Care	Disaster Management	Humanitarian Values	Organisational Development	Coordination & Implementation		
A							B	A - B
BUDGET (C)		250,000					250,000	
Supplies								
Water & Sanitation	1,000							1,000
Other Supplies & Services	201,501							201,501
Total Supplies	202,501							202,501
Transport & Storage								
Storage	9,462		2,512			2,512		6,950
Distribution & Monitoring	18,526		8,133			8,133		10,393
Transport & Vehicle Costs	300		755			755		-455
Total Transport & Storage	28,288		11,400			11,400		16,888
Personnel								
National Staff			1,053			1,053		-1,053
National Society Staff			78			78		-78
Total Personnel			1,131			1,131		-1,131
General Expenditure								
Travel	2,711		2,328			2,328		383
Information & Public Relation	250		312			312		-62
Office Costs			40			40		-40
Communications			50			50		-50
Other General Expenses			228			228		-228
Total General Expenditure	2,961		2,957			2,957		4
Programme Support								
Program Support	16,250		1,787			1,787		14,463
Total Programme Support	16,250		1,787			1,787		14,463
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			10,217			10,217		-10,217
Total Operational Provisions			10,217			10,217		-10,217
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	250,000		27,493			27,493		222,507
VARIANCE (C - D)			222,507			222,507		